

Amendments to Claims

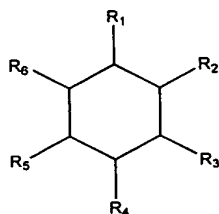
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Original) A method for the production of malate conjugated aromatic acids comprising: contacting a glycosylated aromatic acid with malate in the presence of an effective amount of sinapoylglucose:malate sinapoyltransferase which catalyzes the substitution of a glucose moiety on the glycosylated aromatic acid with a malate moiety to form a malate conjugated aromatic acid.

Claims 2 and 3. (Canceled)

Claim 4. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of~~ Claims 1, ~~2 or 3~~ wherein the aromatic acid is described by the formula:



wherein

R₁ - R₆ are each independently H, or OH, or COOH or OR₇ or R₇COOH; and
R₇ is C₁ to C₂₀ substituted or unsubstituted alkyl or substituted or unsubstituted
alkenyl or substituted or unsubstituted alkylidene;

providing at least one of R₁ - R₆ is COOH.

Claim 5. (Original) A method according to Claim 1 wherein the aromatic acid is *para*-hydroxybenzoic acid.

Claims 6-14 (Canceled)